



NOAA Teacher at Sea
Lollie Garay
Onboard Research Vessel *Hugh R. Sharp*
May 9 – 20, 2009

NOAA Teacher at Sea: Lollie Garay

Ship: Research Vessel *Hugh R. Sharp*

Mission: Sea Scallop Survey

Geographical Area: North Atlantic

Lat 40.2N 72.52W

Date: Sunday, May 17, 2009

Weather Data from the Bridge

Showers/scattered thunderstorms; winds 15-25KT

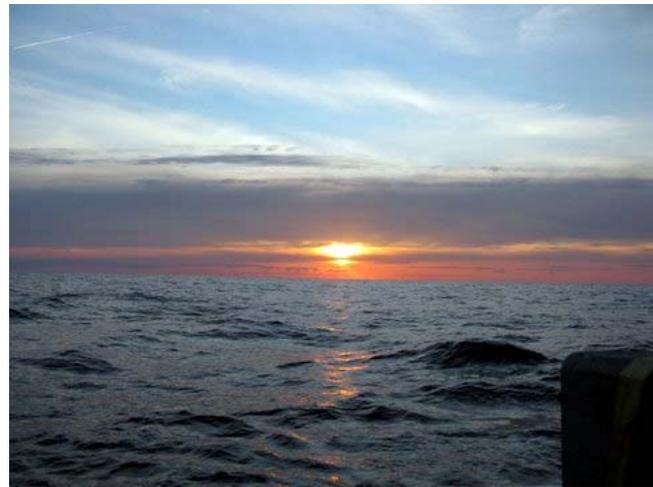
Temp: 12.2°C

Winds: 11.1KT

Seas: 5-8 ft

Science and Technology Log

We have completed 138 stations and are halfway through today's shift. Our transit today will take us to the closest we've been to the coast. Having said that, we are still about 40 miles offshore. The weather today has been better than we expected. Seas are still choppy, and the air is very cool.



It was great to see the Sun again after all the fog!



Captain Jimmy Warrington

Working out on deck requires us to bundle up. The fog has lifted after cutting visibility down to 100 ft yesterday! The captain said that he had three different computers going at the same time to insure safe navigation.

This led to a conversation about how technology has changed on ships. Captain Warrington said in the old days all they used were 2 radars, a stopwatch, and "dead reckoning" where they lay out a line of travel (their course) on paper.

As you can see from my past conversations about the science night crewmembers, people come from all walks of life to work in NOAA's Fisheries Service. I have not written about the science day crew because the other Teacher At Sea, Elise Olivieri is working with them. Check out her logs to see what's happening on her shift! And what

about the ship's crew?

We have Vessel Master James Warrington (the Captain). He has been with the University of Delaware for 25 years, and a Captain for 18 years. He started out as an engineer and decided he would like it better on the bridge! He has to go through re-certification periodically to maintain his license. I asked him what his most interesting assignment of all time was and he said it was working at the Bermuda Biological Station.

Chris Bogan has been a Vessel Master since 1983 and is the First Mate on this cruise. He told me that 90% of his family had been sea



First Mate Chris Bogan

captains, on both sides of his family!



Cook Paul Gomez

One of the most important crewmembers on board is Paul Gomez, the cook! Paul is originally from Ecuador. His family lives in New York, but Paul, his wife and children live in Delaware. Paul has worked with the University of Delaware for 5 years and stays out at sea most of the year. He has been out at sea for 165 days already this year. Paul says he really enjoys his work because of all the people he meets. You can ask anyone on this cruise and they will tell you that he is a fabulous chef! And he is always smiling.

Personal Log

We had a lot of smiles this evening. We are within satellite range that has brought our cell phones back to life, at least for awhile. We are just off the coast of Manhattan, so everyone got busy with a call home. We also got a glimpse of city lights off in the distance.

As I was getting into my foul weather gear again tonight, I started thinking about how many times this has happened this week. We have averaged 9 stations per day on our shift and have been working for 9 days so far, which means that I have put on this gear 81



Lollie in Foul Weather Gear

times, and taken it off 81 times! This may sound trivial to you, but it's one of those little details that help you laugh as you near the end of another long 12 hour shift!

New animals Seen Today

An interesting little crab (Parchment worm Polyonyx) that makes its home in Parchment Worm tubes.